



# Worship

Leader's Academy Series

A person's hands are raised in a gesture of prayer or praise, with fingers slightly spread and palms facing each other. The hands are positioned in the lower right quadrant of the frame. The background is dark, and a semi-transparent grey rectangular area with a slightly irregular border covers the upper and middle portions of the image, serving as a backdrop for the white text.

Lord I Lift Your Name On High

Lord I lift Your name on high

Lord I love to sing Your praises

I'm so glad You're in my life

I'm so glad You came to save us

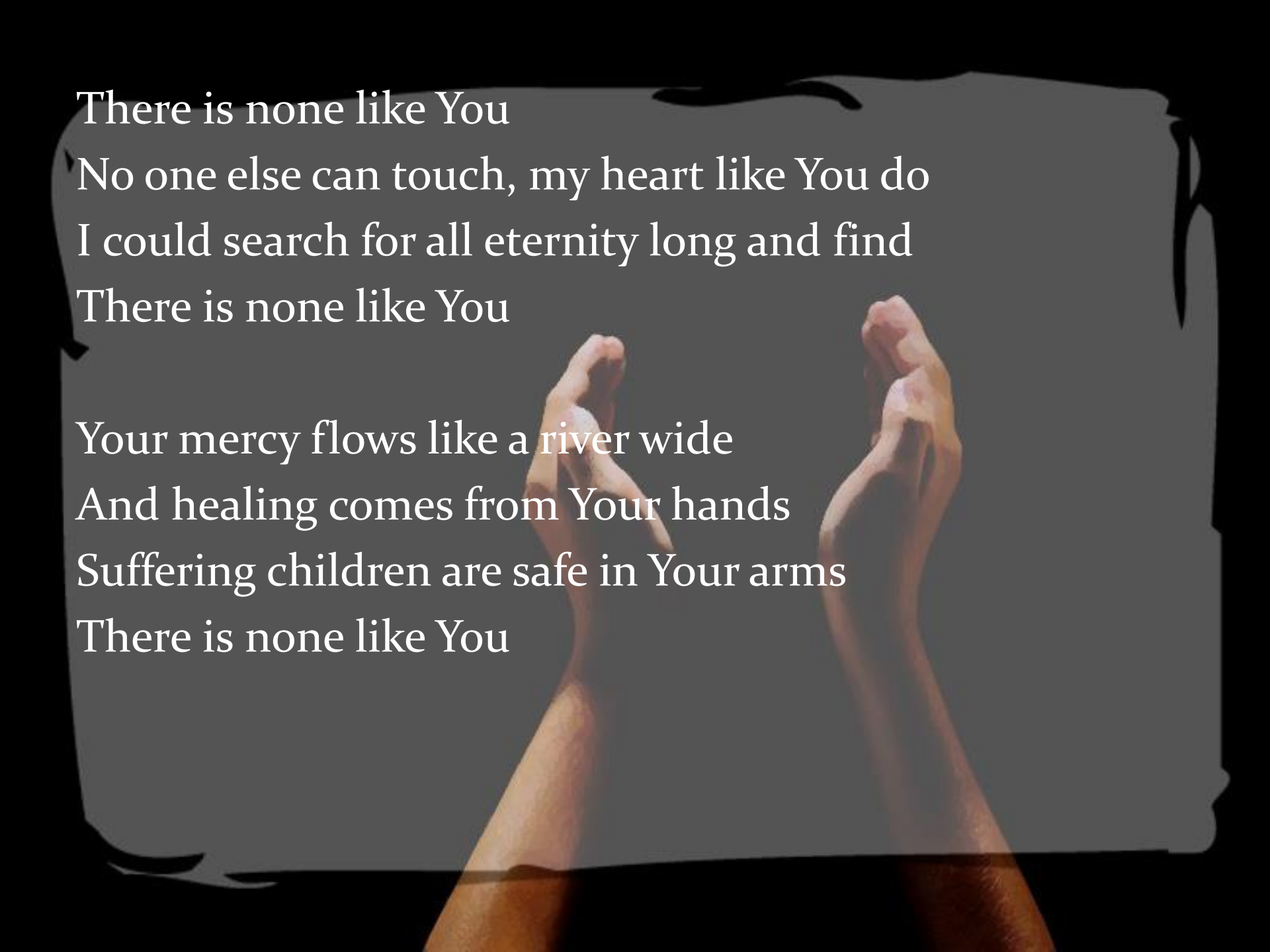
You came from heaven to earth, to show the way

From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay

From the cross to the grave

From the grave to the sky

Lord I lift Your name on high

A pair of hands, palms facing each other, reaching upwards from the bottom of the frame. The hands are positioned as if they are about to clasp or are in a gesture of prayer or reaching towards something above. The background is dark and textured, with a lighter, irregular shape in the center where the text is placed.

There is none like You  
No one else can touch, my heart like You do  
I could search for all eternity long and find  
There is none like You

Your mercy flows like a river wide  
And healing comes from Your hands  
Suffering children are safe in Your arms  
There is none like You

# Six Worship Services

Could you tell which is which?

- Episcopal/Anglican
- Presbyterian/Reformed
- Ethnic Baptist
- Pentecostal
- Underground Church
- Appalachian Mountain “Hillbillies”



# Worship – Bible Words

- *Shachah* – to bow down (H)
- *Latreuo* – to serve (G)
- *Proskuneo* – to kiss the hand of (G)
- *Sebomai* – to attend the synagogue of God but not follow all the Jewish ways of life, e.g. circumcision; used of Gentiles in a positive way. (G)

# Worship – a definition

*It is the activity of glorifying God in His presence with our voices and hearts. (Grudem, Systematic Theology, p. 1003)*



# The Pursuit of Redemption

- Worship by created design: Gen. 1:31; 2:7.
- Worship and the Fall: Gen. 3:24.
- Worship and the tabernacle of Moses: Exo. 40:34
- Worship and David: 1 Chr. 25:1, 7; 23:5
- Worship and the temple of Solomon: 1 Chr. 28:6; 2 Chr. 7:11-22.
- Worship and the exile: Eze. 10, 20:1-29; Mal. 3:1-3.
- Worship and redemption by Jesus: John 14:6
- Worship and reconciliation: Matt. 27:51
- Worship and the Holy Spirit: John 16:5-16
- Worship and the Church as new temple: Heb. 9:1 – 10:25, 1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 2:19-21.

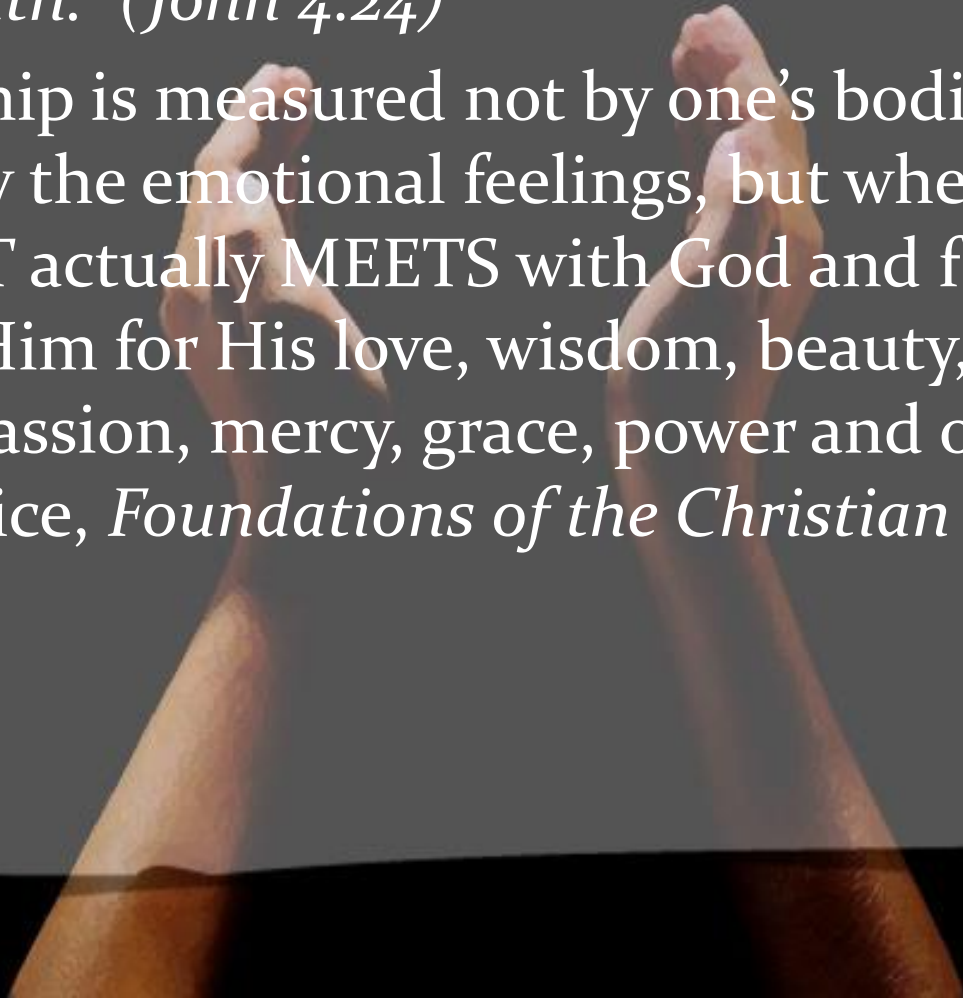
# Worship – Biblical Conclusions

- *Worship is the Christians PURPOSE in life. (Ex. 7:16b; Rev. 4:8; 19:4; Westminster Catechism Q&A 1)*
- *Worship is a VERB.*
- *In corporate worship, God overcome OPPOSITION. (2 Chron. 20:21-22)*
- *In corporate worship, unbelievers will know they are in God's presence. (1 Cor. 14:25)*
- *In corporate worship, God MINISTERS to us. (Heb. 4:16)*
- *In worship, God draws NEAR to us. (James 4:8)*
- *In worship, we DELIGHT in God. (Psa. 16:11)*
- *When the believer is aware of the real presence and power of God, he AUTOMATICALLY worships. (Matt. 28:9)*



# Genuine Worship – In Spirit

- “*God is spirit, and His worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.*” (John 4:24)
- “Genuine worship is measured not by one’s bodily motions, nor by the emotional feelings, but whether or not your SPIRIT actually MEETS with God and finds itself praising Him for His love, wisdom, beauty, truth, holiness, compassion, mercy, grace, power and other attributes.” (Boice, *Foundations of the Christian Faith*, p. 591)



# Genuine Worship – In Spirit

*Once, as I rode out into the woods for my health, in 1737, having alighted from my horse in a retired place, as my manner commonly has been, to walk for divine contemplation and prayer, I had a view that for me was extraordinary, of the glory of the Son of God, as Mediator between God and man, and his wonderful, great, full, pure and sweet grace and love, and meek and gentle condescension. This grace that appeared so calm and sweet, appeared also great above the heavens. The person of Christ appeared ineffably excellent, with an excellency great enough to swallow up all thought and conception — which continued, as near as I can judge, about an hour; which kept me the greater part of the time in a flood of tears, and weeping aloud. I felt an ardency of soul to be, what I know not otherwise how to express, emptied and annihilated; to lie in the dust, and to be full of Christ alone; to love him with a holy and pure love; to trust in him; to live upon him; to serve and follow him; and to be perfectly sanctified and made pure, with a divine and heavenly purity. I have several other times had views very much of the same nature, and which have had the same effects.*

# Genuine Worship – In Spirit

*I have many times had a sense of the glory of the Third Person in the Trinity, and his office of Sanctifier; in his holy operations, communicating divine light and life to the soul. God, in the communications of his Holy Spirit, has appeared as an infinite fountain of divine glory and sweetness; being full and sufficient to fill and satisfy the soul; pouring forth itself in sweet communications; like the sun in its glory, sweetly and pleasantly diffusing light and life. And I have sometimes had an affecting sense of the excellency of the Word of God, as the word of life; as the light of life; a sweet, excellent, life-giving, word; accompanied with a thirsting after that word, that it might dwell richly in my heart.*  
(Edwards, Jonathan, *Further Reflections*, 1737)

# Genuine Worship – And Truth

- GLORIFIES God
- Exalts CHRIST
- Moved by the SPIRIT
- Based on God's WORD



# A Life of Worship

- Worship involves connection, intimacy, dwelling, and communication.
- Practical application
- Listen to worship music during your commute.
- Begin your workday with prayer.
- Don't let your career be your idol.
- Submit to God's calling, wherever that may lead you.
- Relinquish your rights to comfort and amenities.  
Surrender.
- Make the seventh day of the week the overflow.

# Questions

1. Do you experience genuine, fulfilling worship in your church each Sunday? What aspects of the worship time do you find the most meaningful? How could your church take steps to strengthen and deepen its experience of worship?
2. Have you ever felt a strong sense of the presence of God in corporate worship? When was this? Can you describe it? Do you know what factors contributed to this sense?
3. What do you think are the hindrances to genuine worship?